CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION 25X1 REPORT Yugoslavia COUNTRY 20 February 1953 DATE DISTR. 1. Belgrade-Zemun Airfield SUBJECT 2. Air Force Headquarters NO. OF PAGES RD REQUIREMENT NO. DATE OF INFO. 25X1 REFERENCES PLACE ACQUIRED This is UNEVALUATED Information THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.

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Belgrade Zemun Airfield

Construction

1. Prior to 1947 two permanent billeting buildings were built at the airfield. There has been no other construction.

Runway

2. The airfield has a north-south concrete runway approximately 1,000 to 1,500 meters long. No taxiways are available.

Buildings

- 3. The billeting area of the installation is fenced in so that access is possible only through a special gate on the road.
- 4. The flight control station is a single story building, 20 x 15 meters.

Personnel

- 5. Air force soldiers and parachutists between the ages of 20 and 25 are stationed at the field. Most of them are noncommissioned officers.
- 6. All the soldiers wear steel blue uniforms. Parachutists wear a metal insignia in the form of a triangle with rounded-off corners on which a parachute is stamped. This insignia is worn on the left breast pocket and is apparently awarded only after the completion of a certain number of jumps. Other soldiers wear a metal wing or propeller on their upper sleeves.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Activity

- 7. Flying has been conducted almost daily since 1950. It appears that flying personnel and parachutists are being trained.
- 8. From 50 to 60 aircraft of two different types in addition to some small obsolescent planes which fly only occasionally are stationed at the field. Two thirds of the planes are single engine, and the remainder are twin engine planes. The single engine planes usually fly individually but occasionally they fly in formations of three and sometimes in formations of up to 30. Individual aircraft have been seen firing at air sleeves towed by twin engine planes. The twin engine craft usually fly individually but occasionally they also fly in formations.
- 9. Twin engine aircraft are used to drop parachutists over the field, usually 10 to 15 men at one time. Several times up to 10 planes approached the field in succession and dropped parachutists over the field. These planes usually flew in groups of three at an altitude of about 1,000 meters. The parachutes opened shortly after the men had jumped. The men carried no equipment.
- 10. In the summer of 1951 female air force personnel also jumped. They wore light blue uniforms of trousers and pullover shirts with leather belts and leather caps in the form of crash helmets.

Air Force Headquarters

- 11. A major air force headquarters¹ is located in two three-story buildings each about 30 meters long. These buildings are located on Tito Street in Belgrade about 350 meters from the western bank of the Danube.
- 12. During the war these buildings were used as a hospital. Both before and after the war, however, the buildings have been used for an air force headquarters.
- 13. Many air force officers have been seen at the installation, which is guarded by a sentry in a grey-blue uniform.
- 14. The renced-in area of the installation is approximately 150 \times 80 meters.

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